

1st May 2009

Our ref: R00095

Freedom of Information Request – Staff Team Building Exercises

Your request is:

I would like to find out, under Freedom of Information rules, how much the South East England Development Agency spends on staff trips which could be considered "team building exercises", i.e. any group trips done for staff training which might involve activities unrelated to normal work activity.

I would like figures (pounds spent) for 2007 and 2008.

I would like to know how many staff were involved.

I would like to know specifics of where staff went and what activities they did.

Information provided

SEEDA has spent £260.19 on staff trips which could be considered "team building exercises" in 2007 and 2008. This relates to a full day event which took place at INTECH, Winchester, Hampshire on 3rd October 2008. The purpose of the team building was to agree how the new Hampshire and Isle of Wight Area Team could work effectively together. The focus was on identifying key priorities for the team as well as discussing effective ways of working.

The venue selected represented good value for money, and was considerably less than a conference venue such as a hotel. The day included a short visit around INTECH to explain their engagement with school children on science.



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SEEDA previously funded INTECH and the planetarium and the management were keen to give us an update on progress.

INTECH is an educational charity for inspiring and educating people in science and technology. SEEDA's funding of the planetarium is in response to STEM the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics a government initiative geared towards creating a pool of scientists, engineers and technologists for the future. The aim is to meet the increasing demands of the STEM sector, which in turn helps the UK economy.